

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Office Action mailed on 10.08.2008 is vacated via of this new Office Action

Election/Restrictions

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

Group I, claims 1-43, drawn to a multimedia hub comprising a chassis with one tower, classified in class 709, and subclass 220.

Group II, claims 44-78, drawn to a multimedia hub comprising a chassis with two towers with a video display device, classified in class 725, and subclass 136.

Group III, claims 79-106, drawn to a multimedia hub for a chassis comprising a first tower and a second tower stand on a floor with a work surface connected to at least one tower, classified in class 455, and subclass 557.

3. Inventions Group I, Group II, and Group III are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention Group I, has separate utility such as providing input to a user interface. Invention Group II, has separate utility such as providing an open-interface communications for sharing information between mobile telephone and external device. Invention Group III, has separate utility such as for transporting different types of data across a network. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

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4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

6. A telephone call was made to David E. Henn on June 7, 2008 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

7. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GARCIA ADE whose telephone number is (571)272-5586. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM - 5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew S. Gart can be reached on 571.272.3955. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Garcia Ade
Examiner
Art Unit 3687

ga

/Vanel Frenel/

Examiner, Art Unit 3687

January 20, 2009